

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicant's representative Daniel S. Glueck on Thursday, March 18th, 2010.

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

As a preferred embodiment, an information processing method of distributing across a network a control program for controlling a network device to a client apparatus for managing the network device, comprising, a designation step of designating range information for searching for a network device connected to the network, and a search step of searching for the network device corresponding to the designated range information on the basis of the designated range information and a distribution step of distributing a control program to the client apparatus for managing the network device within the range searched by the processing in the search step is disclosed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: After a comprehensive and reasonable search of the prior art, no reference or obvious combinations of references could be found covering the subject matter of independent claims 1, 6 and 7. More specifically, with all the element(s) of a server apparatus designating a range to search for specific printers, searching within that designated range for specific printing devices according to IP addresses of the devices, and followed by a determination step and finally a distribution step for distributing the specific printer driver program based upon that found IP address within the designated range, could not be found. For at least these reasons, claims 1-7 are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to XIANG YU whose telephone number is (571)270-5695. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivek Srivastava can be reached on (571) 272 - 7304. The fax phone

Art Unit: 2445

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/X. Y./

Examiner, Art Unit 2445

/VIVEK SRIVASTAVA/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2445